

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 8 remain in this application. Claims 1 - 8 are rejected. Claims 1 and 3 are amended herein to clarify the invention, to express the invention in alternative wording, to broaden the scope of the claims where Applicants are entitled to such, to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicants regard as the invention, to overcome the 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph based rejection of previous claim 3 of the application, and to address matters of form unrelated to substantive patentability issues.

No new matter is added to any of the claims by the amendments made herein. Support for the amendments to claim 1 are found in the original specification at page 4, first paragraph, with respect to the term "cutting device"; at page 5, last paragraph, with respect to new step (c), which also provides a proper antecedent basis for the terms "multi-layered stack" and "leading end"; new step (d) corresponds to previous step (c), and is amended to emphasize that the leading edge of the stack is introduced into the dispenser and that the stack is transferred directly into the dispenser.

In the Office Action, claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph because use of the term "-like" in the expression "sheet-like" was deemed to be indefinite and to make the scope of the claim unascertainable.

In claim 3, the term "sheet-like" has been amended to - - in the form of a sheet- -, which is believed to be definite and to overcome the 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph based indefiniteness rejection.

In the Office Action, claims 1 - 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,282,350 to Crowley ("Crowley").

The Examiner asserts that Crowley discloses a method for the production of administration forms that includes arranging tapes into a multilayered strand (reference at col. 5, lines 1 - 3), aligning and transporting the strand to a cross-cutting scissor (col. 5, lines 3 - 6), and transferring the stack directly into a pre-opened dispenser (col. 6, lines 19 - 39).

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's analysis and conclusions drawn therefrom with regard to Crowley, and thus traverse the rejection.

Crowley does not pertain to an apparatus for handling and inserting a plurality of individual administration sheets or forms into a dispenser by forming a multilayer pile, as is the apparatus of the present application, but rather to an apparatus for inserting single layer sheets from a plurality of webs of roll material, into envelopes (see reference at col. 1, lines 15 - 61).

The administration sheets or forms produced according to the apparatus of the present application are completely different from the sheets handled by the

apparatus of Crowley. The "administration sheets" handled and inserted according to the apparatus of the present application contain substances, such as therapeutic substances for medical treatments, that are to be administered, e.g., to persons, or animals. Thus, Crowley does not disclose a "method for the production of individual administration forms", as is recited according to claim 1 of the present application.

Furthermore, Crowley does not disclose a method in which a stack of sheets is transferred directly into a pre-opened dispenser by inserting the leading end of the stack directly into an open dispenser, as is also recited according to claim 1 of the present application, as amended herein.

In Crowley, at col. 6, lines 19 - 39, referring to Fig. 7, a group of individual layer sheets is inserted into an empty envelope after folding the sheets (col. 6, lines 30 - 32). This group of sheets is not inserted with its leading end first, and is not inserted into the envelope directly after cutting, but first requires the completion of a folding step, which is required in order to effect an orderly insertion of a stack of individual sheets into an envelope, and which could not be accomplished without first folding.

The dispenser into which the administration sheets or forms are inserted according to the present application, moreover, is completely different from the envelope of Crowley. The dispenser into which the administration sheets are

inserted according to the present application is a container which is designed to dispense its contents singularly, e.g., for individual dosage removal (see application at page 1, first paragraph). The envelope into which the plurality of folded sheets are inserted according to Crowley is not a "dispenser". In Crowley, it is intended for the plurality of folded sheets contained in the envelope to be easily removed together, rather than individually, as is the case of the administration forms according to the present invention, therefore, the underlying objectives achieved by the method of Crowley and that of the present application are completely opposite.

In the method of the present application, if all of the administration forms were first folded together as are the individual sheets according to Crowley, they could not be removed from the dispenser individually, but would all have to be removed simultaneously as are the sheets from the envelopes in Crowley.

For the foregoing reasons, Crowley does not anticipate the method of the present application, either as previously claimed, or as presently claimed according to amended claims 1 - 8 in the application after entry of this Amendment. Therefore, it is requested that the 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) rejection in view of Crowley be withdrawn as applied to previous claims 1 - 8, and not reapplied to any of the amended and original claims in the application after entry of this Amendment. Entry of this Amendment and reconsideration and further examination of the

application in view of the amended claims and accompanying Remarks presented herein is respectfully requested.

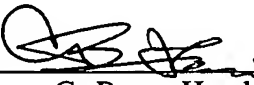
In light of the foregoing, the application is now believed to be in proper form for allowance of all claims and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

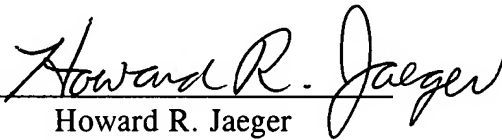
No further claims are added by this Amendment beyond the number previously paid for, therefore, no additional claims fees are presently due.

This Amendment is being filed within the original three month shortened statutory period for response. Therefore, a Request for an Extension of Time is not required, and no fee for an extension of the time to respond is presently due.

No other fees are believed due with the filing of this Amendment. If, however, any additional fees are due, or if Applicants are entitled to any refund of previous overpayments, please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

Respectfully submitted,
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